

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

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R 121628Z AUG 76

FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2940

INFO AMEMBXASSY BERLIN UNN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 1680

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, , PINT, GE, GW, WB

SUBJECT: GDR MEDIA CAMPAIGN AGAINST FRG

REF: USBERLIN 1666

1. GDR'S ACTION IN RELEASING WILLIE BUBBERS MAY HAVE  
MARKED FIRST STEP IN BACKING AWAY FROM CONFRONTATION,  
ACCORDING TO CHANCELLERY CHIEF HERZ. EVENING OF AUGUST 11,  
HERZ TOLD ALLIED SENAT LIAISON OFFICRS THAT HE HAD SPOKEN  
TO GAUS EARLIER AND LEARNED THAT DURING LATTER'S CALL  
ON NIER ON AUGUST 9 (REFTEL),GAUS ASKED FOR IMMEDIATE  
RELEASE OF BUBBERS. THIS WAS REJECTED AND NIER HINTED  
BUBBERS MIGHT HAVE TO STAND TRIAL. FEW HOURS LATER,  
HOWEVER, GUAS WAS INFORMED THAT BUBBERS WOULD BE RELEASED.  
( ACCORDING TO BERLIN PRESS, BUBBERS HAS SAID HE WAS  
TREATED FAIRLY BY GDR).

2. HERZ BELIEVED (AND THIS MAY ALSO REFLECT JUDGMENT  
OF GAUS) THAT WHEN EAST GERMANS MADE RELEASE DECISION DURING  
COURSE OF AUGUST 9, THEY MADE FIRST STEP OF BACKING  
AWAY FROM CONFRONTATION WITH FRG. HERZ SAID INNER-GERMAN  
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AFFAIRS MINISTER FRANKE TALKED TO CDU GENERAL SECRETARY

BIEDENKOPF ON AUGUST 11 TRYING, TO NO AVAIL, TO PER-SUADE CDU TO PLAY DOWN ITS JUNGE UNION" STERNFAHRT" TO BERLIN ON AUGUST 13. HERZ FEARD THAT WITH SO MANY YOUNG CDU SUPPORTERS ON THE TRANSIT ROUTES HEADING GFOR AN ANTI-WALL RALLY AT THE REICHSTAG EVENING OF AUGUST 13, POTENTIAL FOR INCIDENTS ENROUTE WAS VERY HIGH. ( LOCAL PRESS HASS CARRIED FRANKE'S STATEMENT OF AUGUST 11 WARNING THE YOUNG CDU ADHERENTS ABOUT POSSIBLE REPERCUSSIONS OF STERNFAHRT).

3. IN CAREFULLY ORCHESTRATED EFFORT, SOVIETS PROTESTED AUGUST 13 EVENTS PLANNED FOR WEST BERLIN TO US POLAD ON AUGUST 13 ( DETAILS FOLLOW BY SEPTEL), WHILE MITDANK OF GDR FOMMIN PROTESTED TO SENAT AND BRAUETIGAM OF FRG REPRESENATION IN EAST BERLIN WAS CALLED IN TO GDR FOMIN TO RECEIVE SIMILAR PROTEST. MITDANK, INCIDENTALLY, TOLD SENAT IN ADVANCE US WOULD RECEIVE PROTEST FROM SOVIETS, AN UNCOMMON BUT NOT UNPRECENDED EXAMPLE OF GDR/SOVIET JOINT PLANNING.

4. COMMENT: IT APPEARS FROM BERLIN VANTAGE POINT THAT FRG IS TRYING THROUGH FRANKE STATEMENT AND PUBLISHED COMMENTS BY SPD CAUCUS CHIEF WEHNER TO DEMONSTRATE TO GDR THAT WEST GERMANS ALSO WANT TO BACK AWAY FROM A CONFRONTATION.

GEORGE

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## Message Attributes

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